Below are the amended claims in clean, unmarked format.

1. (Amended) A method comprising:

identifying partial feasible routing solutions corresponding to each of a subset of a set of wires to be routed, each of the partial feasible routing solutions identifying a feasible route between fixed points in a layout;

merging the partial feasible routing solutions to identify one or more feasible routing solutions for the set of wires to be routed.

9. (Amended) A method comprising:

constructing multiple partial feasible routing trees, each of the partial feasible routing trees identifying a set of partial feasible routing solutions for a subset of a set of wires to be routed, each of the partial feasible routing solutions identifying feasible routes between fixed points in a layout; and

merging the multiple partial feasible routing trees to identify a set of feasible routing solutions for the set of wires to be routed.

15. (Amended) A method comprising:

determining a first set of possible routes between a first set of fixed points in an integrated circuit layout;

determining a second set of possible routes between a second set of fixed points in the integrated circuit layout;

merging the first and second sets of possible routes to determine a third set of possible routes, the third set of possible routes including possible routes from the first and second sets of possible routes that do not conflict.

20. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

an integrated circuit device having wires routed according to a method comprising:

identifying partial feasible routing solutions corresponding to each of a subset of a set of wires to be routed, each of the partial feasible routing solutions identifying a feasible route between two nodes fixed in layout;

merging the partial feasible routing solutions to identify one or more feasible routing solutions for the set of wires to be routed; and

selecting the routing from the one or more feasible routing solutions.

22. (Amended) A data storage medium storing instructions to be executed by a computer system, the instructions comprising:

a maze router to determine partial feasible routing solutions for each of a subset of a set of wires to be routed, each of the partial feasible routing solutions to identify a feasible route between fixed points in a layout; and

a deferred merging router to merge the partial feasible routing solutions to generate one or more feasible routing solutions.